

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By C. B. PINKHAM, *Secretary*

According to the Santa Ana *Register* of December 14, 1926, "Rex H. W. Albrextondare, once nicknamed 'The Peapod Scientist' or 'Alfalfa Doctor' by jocular reporters because of his dietetic theories, . . . recently reported that he would have some startling and sensational disclosures to make at the time of his trial of a suit filed against him in Los Angeles County by Mrs. Jenny McFadden and her daughter, who seek to recover \$37,000 representing alleged loans to him. (Former entries "News Items," June, 1925, and March, 1926.)

A fine of \$100 was imposed upon Mrs. Mary Aston, who pleaded guilty to a violation of the Medical Practice Act, by Superior Judge T. W. Harris in Oakland.—San Francisco *Chronicle*, January 11, 1927.

Attorney-General Webb recently handed down an opinion that if an eastern firm is selling "ready-to-wear" glasses in California, it is violating the law. The opinion is based on the alleged procedure of representatives who are trying to sell glasses by fitting prospective customers and who later send the glasses by mail from the manufacturer. "The California Optometry Law is designed to protect would-be customers from the evil of harmful fitting glasses."

The 1926 Annual Report of the Board of Medical Examiners urges legislation to prohibit the use of poisons by beauty specialists, etc., in so-called face-peeling operations, citing several deaths in California which have resulted from the absorption of poisons during such procedure. Senate Bill 61 introduced in the present legislature proposes to create a board of cosmetology with power to license those engaged in the various branches of beauty specialties, etc., but does not prohibit the use of poisons in local applications.

Following the death of Sallie Lytton, alleged to have been due to a strong bichloride of mercury face-peel preparation used by her, several individuals were arrested in Los Angeles on a charge of violation of the State Poison Law.

The Los Angeles *Examiner* of January 11, 1927, relates that a charge of violation of the State Poison Law filed against Fannie Briggs Carr and P. G. Hughes, who were accused of selling a face bleach lotion containing bichloride of mercury, was dismissed, it being stipulated that the Fannie Briggs Carr Corporation pleaded guilty through their attorney, which resulted in a fine of \$250 being imposed. It is also related that Virginia Bates and Della Nell Lucas pleaded guilty to similar charges and paid fines of \$25 each.

According to the San Francisco *Examiner* of January 12, 1927, Percy Purviance, president of the Berkeley Chiropractic College, has renewed his fight against the Chiropractic Board by obtaining an order to show cause why said board should not be punished for contempt of court. "Last March Judge Murasky signed an injunction forbidding the board to investigate the operations or character of the Berkeley school. Purviance claims that this injunction has been violated."

As a result of a petition filed in the California Supreme Court, a ruling is in prospect which will determine the powers of the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners in the revocation of licenses. The petition was filed by C. H. Wood, Los Angeles chiropractor, whose license was revoked by the board November 20. He claims that the act creating the board and endowing it with certain powers, fails to set forth legally its jurisdiction and procedure in revocation hearings. The examiners in revoking Wood's license charged that it had been obtained by "fraud and deception."—Los Angeles *Times*, December 13, 1926.

The Board of Dental Examiners under date of July 20, 1926, issued a "Report of the Board of Dental Examiners of the State of California" which also contains a complete list of dentists licensed in California.

The Sacramento *Union* of December 30, 1926, related

the following changes in the personnel of the Board of Medical Examiners: Albert K. Dunlap, M. D., of Sacramento, vice Harry V. Brown, M. D., Glendale, term expired; William Geistweit, Jr., M. D., San Diego, vice John C. Yates, M. D., San Diego, term expired; James L. Maupin, M. D., Fresno, vice Junius B. Harris, M. D., of Sacramento, resigned.

According to the Los Angeles *Herald* of December 29, 1926, "Dr. Margaret M. E. Dunlap, Ocean Park physician, (was) held for preliminary hearing on a charge of issuing four fictitious checks totaling \$185." The records of the Board of Medical Examiners do not show any doctor by the name of Margaret M. E. Dunlap licensed to practice in this state.

Recent reports relate the reappointment of Edward F. Glaeser, M. D., of San Francisco, member of the State Board of Health, vice self, term expired.

Recent reports from Visalia relate the dismissal of the I-on-a-co representatives in that vicinity charged with violation of the State Medical Practice Act.

"The State Supreme Court Saturday denied application for a writ of habeas corpus made by attorneys for Dr. F. K. Lord of Ceres, convicted of a misdemeanor charge of prescribing more than the legal daily allotment of narcotics to a drug addict," says an Associated Press dispatch. "Doctor Lord was found guilty after trial in the Justice Court of W. H. Rice. He is out on bail" (*Modesto News-Herald*, December 12, 1926). (Prior entries in "News Items," March, May, June, July, and December, 1926.)

According to the Sacramento *Bee* of January 6, 1927, Mrs. Lena Mareck of San Francisco recently appeared before Police Judge Lazarus charged with performing an illegal operation.

L. G. Mein, Chinese herbalist, charged with practicing medicine without a license, entered a plea of guilty before Judge J. C. Needham yesterday and was fined \$200.—Stockton *Record*, December 30, 1926.

According to the Sacramento *Bee* of December 23, 1926, nine California doctors have been cited to appear before the Board of Medical Examiners at the next regular meeting, which will open in Los Angeles January 31.

A verdict of acquittal was brought in by the jury yesterday afternoon in the case of Y. Miki, charged with violation of Section 17 of the Medical Practice Act and tried in Superior Court before Judge J. F. Pullen.—Sacramento *Union*, January 13, 1927.

According to reports, E. J. Moloney of San Francisco was recently reappointed a member of the State Board of Pharmacy, a position which he has held for several years.

A sequel to the death last September of Joseph McManus, 6 years old, while being given an anesthetic on the operating table of M. James McGranaghan, chiropractor of 1171 Market Street, began yesterday, when the latter surrendered to the police on a warrant charging him with violation of the State Medical Practice Statute . . . (San Francisco *Chronicle*, December 28, 1926). (Prior entries, "News Items," November, 1926.)

The California State Board of Optometry recently issued a year-book giving interesting information regarding the operation of the board and containing a list of those licensed by said board.

A recent "Report on Drug Addiction in California by the State Narcotic Committee," Senator Sanborn Young, chairman, has come from the state printer, and is worthy of close study by the medical profession.

Recent reports relate the appointment of R. E. Conley, Sacramento druggist, as a member of the State Board of Pharmacy, vice E. T. Off of Los Angeles, term expired.

Dr. Paul Sanford, whose medical and matrimonial affairs have been the basis of extended litigation, pleaded guilty yesterday in Alameda County Superior Court to violating the State Medical Law. The specific charge was practicing without a license. Sanford was arrested a year

ago on charges sworn out by Mrs. Ange Stanke, Novato matron. Mrs. Stanke said she consulted him in his alleged self-advertised capacity of birth control expert and received a series of treatments. . . . (San Francisco *Examiner*, January 11, 1927.) (Previous entries "News Items," January, February, and May, 1926.)

Recent reports relate that Dr. A. J. Scott, Jr., of Los Angeles was reappointed a member of the State Board of Health, vice self, term expired.

Dr. William Shore, Ventura physician, was arrested for the second time in twenty-four hours when police raided his garage at 316 Oak Street today and seized ten gallons of alcohol. Shore pleaded guilty to a charge of violating the Wright Act yesterday after the sheriff's deputy raided his place and seized a quantity of booze. He paid a \$500 fine when he appeared before Justice of the Peace Malvern Dimmick . . . —Ventura *Star*, January 6, 1927.

According to the Hanford *Journal* of December 8, 1926, A. Silva, charged with violation of the Medical Practice Act, was held to answer in the Superior Court.

Dr. Charles R. Spencer was arraigned today in the court of Judge Edwin Hahn on the charge of performing an illegal operation on Eva McArthur, 24-year-old typist, last September. In the course of her testimony at the recent preliminary hearing of the case, the young woman . . . declared that effects of the alleged operation left her partially and probably permanently paralyzed (Los Angeles *Herald*, December 21, 1926). There is no record that Charles R. Spencer is licensed to practice in this state, and we understand he is the same individual as Culver R. Spencer, mentioned in "News Items" of June, 1926.

"E. O. Tilburne, 332 East Colorado Street, Pasadena, agent for Wilshire's I-on-a-co, a health device, was bound over to the Superior Court on a charge of treating the sick without a license. . . . Tilburne called himself Doctor Tilburne unlawfully. . . . An electric belt, pamphlets, and newspaper advertising in which 'Dr. E. O. Tilburne' was named, were exhibited by the prosecution."

Pollen Toxemia in Children—The symptoms of this condition, according to I. S. Kahn, San Antonio, Texas (*Journal A. M. A.*), are: Frequent almost non-intermittent so-called colds dating from early infancy, which actually represent the mild type of hay fever so frequently seen in asthmatic children. Typical severe seasonal hay fever is unusual. Frequent attacks of bronchitis antedate the initial asthmatic attack. Infantile eczema is a common story. The family history almost invariably shows hay fever or asthma. The noses of these children are frequently in a state of prolonged obstruction with almost constant mouth breathing, resembling extensive adenoid growth. Removal of adenoids and tonsils in all these cases had not given relief. Nose picking and rubbing is a common story. The physical examination of these children shows deficient growth and weight, and backward mentality. The complexion is sallow or of a saffron tinge; on the whole, the condition decidedly resembles hereditary syphilis or hookworm infection. The nasal mucosa is typical of vasomotor rhinitis. The chest is barrel shaped, with marked emphysema and heavy generalized rale formation. Cardiac enlargement and murmurs are absent. The abdominal examination is negative. Eosinophilia is uncertain, while a lymphocytic increase is not unusual. The most remarkable result of this toxemia is psychic in character. The mentality is deficient, the condition resembling that of morons or idiots in severe cases. Languidness and listlessness are the rule, alternating with spells of intense temper and fury. These children are almost invariably extremely cross and irritable, resisting all handling, and crying on the slightest provocation. The appetite is poor and capricious, and nocturnal enuresis is common. Within a few weeks, or at times even days, following the institution of proper measures to control the vasomotor rhinitis by desensitization or pollen precautions, the entire picture changes. With improvements, but long before complete elimination of the hay fever and asthma, the complexion clears, appetite returns, and the general physical condition rapidly approaches that of the normal child of that age.

READERS' FORUM

The following letter from C. B. Pinkham, secretary Board of Medical Examiners, to the "Editor of The Stirring Rod" is self-explanatory and contains information of value to physicians:

San Francisco, California.

January 18, 1927.

Editor of The Stirring Rod,
300 Broadway,
San Francisco, California,

Attention
Mr. Sidney J. Wolfe

Dear Sir: The January 1927 issue of The Stirring Rod, on page 10, printed an article by G. D. Johnson, a Stockton druggist, assailing the doctors of California and particularly the Medical Practice Act, basing his complaint on a statement that "about a year ago a pharmacist was arrested for practicing medicine without a license for selling over the counter a box of female pills advertised and sold throughout the United States. A jury acquitted him. . . ."

Knowing the news item to be a misstatement of fact and most unjust in its criticism of the doctors, as well as the law, we made a search for the motive that inspired its venom. The violator file of the Board of Medical Examiners disclosed the G. D. Johnson, alleged as connected with the Kin-Tai-Do Pharmacy, came to our attention in 1923 through a card reading "Dr. G. D. Johnson, 245 South Eldorado Street, Stockton." The records disclosed that there was no one by that name licensed in the state of California, and an investigation produced sufficient evidence to warrant filing a charge of violation of the Medical Practice Act. The records show G. D. Johnson pleaded guilty in the Superior Court, Stockton, California, of the offense charged and on December 3, 1923, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$150.

In March, 1924, complaint again came to us that G. D. Johnson was treating various patients, mostly women, giving hypodermics, etc., but nothing developed until 1925, when it was reported that Johnson was located at 320 East Lafayette Street.

A letter in our files dated Stockton, November 4, 1925, signed Hugo Hagenhofer, 715-F Church Street, Stockton, reads: "My daughter is in hospital here suffering from an infection caused by illegal operation which she accuses Dr. F. H. Johnson. . . . This man is at present employed at the Kin-Tai-Do Drug Store. . . ." Reports of our investigation department indicated that Mrs. S. called on G. D. Johnson at the above named drug store, that he took her to his residence and, according to her story, made a physical examination, told her she was pregnant and that he would relieve her for \$50, that Mrs. S. paid \$20, and it is alleged Mr. Johnson then performed some sort of an operation, which produced the desired result in four days.

A later report relates that on January 4, 1926, G. D. Johnson, on being questioned by District Attorney Dunne of Stockton and Special Agent Henderson of the Board of Medical Examiners, stated that he had sold the husband of Mrs. S. two boxes of pills at \$6 each to relieve her suspected pregnant condition, and that he made a general denial of the story regarding an operation. So much to explain the circumstances which presumably were the basis of his complaint that a pharmacist had been "arrested for practicing medicine without a license for selling over the counter a box of female pills. . . ."

On January 4, 1926, it is reported that a Stockton police officer, armed with a search warrant, took from G. D. Johnson's residence, 320 East Jefferson Street, Stockton, various instruments including a speculum, forceps, vaginal probes, stethoscope, about forty hypodermic needles, etc., and thereafter a charge of violation of Section 274 of the Penal Code, as well as a charge of violation of Section 17 of the Medical Practice Act, was filed.

On April 5, 1926, Mr. Johnson was acquitted on the Penal Code charge. However, on November 8, 1926, Mr.